

ADMINISTRATION
OF THE
IDAR STATE
1902-1903

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up the Dewan's
His Highness the

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POLITICAL.

The Idar State—the most extensive and the only First Class State in the Mahikantha Agency—has an estimated area of 1900 square miles, its extreme length and breadth being 96 and 58 miles respectively. Its total population, as enumerated in the general Census of 1901, is 168,557 souls. The total revenues, inclusive of all alienations, amounted to Rs. 433,332 as against Rs. 433,331 in the previous year.

2. The State pays a tribute of Rs. 30,340 to H. H. the Gaekwar under the denomination of Ghasdana, while it receives Rs. 52,427 on account of Khichadi and other Raj Haks from its subordinate Sardars, the tribute-paying Talukas of the Mahikantha Agency and others.

3. The malarial climate of Idar constrained His Highness to remove his residence from Idar to Ahmednagar—a much healthier town, possessing the advantages of a good climate and an abundant supply of water. Ahmednagar further recommended itself as being also a Railway Station and has since become the head-quarters of all the head Offices and Courts of the State.

4. While leaving the State in the beginning of May to go to England to attend the Coronation ceremony of His Imperial Majesty King Edward VII, His Highness entrusted the charge of the State to Lt.-Colonel G. B. O'Donnell—the then Political Agent, Mahikantha—who carried on the administration until His Highness' return in September last. His Highness' thanks are due to him for his able and careful supervision of the State affairs during his absence.

Mr. Kalianrai Jetha Bakshi continued to work as Dewan till the beginning of November last, when, he having withdrawn from service on account of illness, Maharaj Kumar Dawlatsingh took up the Dewan's work and carried it on under the supervision of His Highness the Maharaja Sahab.

5. The relations of the State with the British Government, the neighbouring States and the subordinate Bhoomias, Sardars &c., in the State continued cordial and satisfactory, as usual.

6. It was gratifying indeed to learn, before the end of the year under report, the appointment of Major Chenevix C. Trench as Special Officer for the settlement of the boundary line with Doongarpur. The subsequent commencement and completion of the work of settlement by that Officer are events of the new year that opened on the 1st of April 1903. In His Highness' belief it would save constant disputes and prevent the commission of heinous offences if similar arrangements are soon adopted with regard to the boundary line with the neighbouring States of Sirohi and Mewar which still remains unsettled in parts.

7. A Border Court, presided over jointly by Colonel G. B. O'Donnell and Captain Windham was held at Pal from the 1st to 28th of March last. The work disposed of was as under:—

Claims against Idar.

By whom	Proved	Not proved	Compensation awarded
Kherwara-Mewar	2	10	55—0—0
Doongarpur	5	21	624—8—0

Claims by Idar.

Against whom	Proved	Not proved	Compensation awarded
Kherwara-Mewar	8	31	860—0—0
Doongarpur	9	38	668—14—0

It may be observed in this connection that His Highness is strongly of opinion that it is high time now to replace the Border Court system by the Extradition Procedure and thus make the Bhil-offenders amenable to the punishments of ordinary law.

8. There were three deaths in all among the subordinate Sardars of the State in the year under report. Mohobatsingh, the Thakoro of Medhasan died of a long illness in November last, leaving behind three sons the eldest of whom named Hadmatsing was recognized by the State as his successor. Thakore Jawansing of Chanderni and Ratansing of Shinawad died accidental deaths under a state of intoxication—the one by falling into a well and the other by falling from a window of his house. Dawlatsing son to Thakore Jawansing, and Jaswantsing son to Thakore Ratansing have been recognized by the State as successors to the estates of Chanderni and Shinawad respectively.

9. At the close of the previous year, there were 38 estates under Durbar management. During the year 5 more were brought under attachment while 13 relieved from it, leaving 30 at the end of the year. The grounds of placing these estates under attachment were;—

- | | | |
|---|-----|----------|
| (1) Minority of the present holders in... | ... | 18 cases |
| (2) Encumbered condition of the estates in... | 6 | „ |
| (3) Disputed succession or title in | ... | 6 „ |

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10. In the year under review, His Highness accompanied by Maharaj Kumar Dawlatsing and 6 others, visited England to be present at the Coronation ceremony of His Imperial Majesty King Edward VII. H. H.'s visits to England and to the Delhi Darbar. Notwithstanding army rules to the contrary, His Highness was permitted by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor, as a special mark of favour to retain his appointment as Aide-de-Camp to His Imperial Majesty after being promoted to the rank of Major General; while Maharaj Kumar Dawlatsingh was created Aide-de-Camp to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. His Highness also attended the grand Coronation Durbar at Delhi, accompanied by Maharaj Kumar Dawlatsingh, the Thakores of Mundoti, Kukadia, Tintoi, Chanderni, Derol, Dehegamda, and Medhasan, four Nobles and three Officers. At the Divan-i-Am investiture ceremony, His Highness was decorated with a Gold Medal by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cannought. When presented to His Excellency the Viceroy at the Coronation Durbar on the 1st of January 1903, His Highness delivered the following address;—

“I hail this day as the most auspicious for India and for my humble self that it has pleased the Almighty to entrust our destinies to a Master and Emperor like His Imperial Majesty King

Edward VII as also that we have immediately over us a Viceroy like His Excellency Lord Curzon."

11. Mr. Hastings M. Page of the College of Science, Poona, whose services were specially obtained from Government to make an inquiry into the mineral resources of the State, arrived on 13th May 1902. He travelled into the State, visiting various localities and returned in the beginning of June, taking with him a number of specimens of stone, sand &c., for ascertaining by analysis their constituents. The result of the analysis is not yet out.

12. The adoption by His Highness of Maharaj Kumar Dawlatsing as his heir and successor was communicated through the Political Agent, Mahikantha, to the Government of Bombay who were pleased to recognize him as Heir Designate of His Highness the Maharaja. the recognition meeting with the approval of the Government of India.

13. The annual Fair at Samlaji which had been abandoned since 1896 on account of plague, cholera, famine, &c., was held in November 1902. It lasted for 15 days from 14th to 28th. The transactions of the various goods at the fair are shown below:—

	1902	1895	Decrease.
Value of goods brought at the fair.	9523—0—0	430755—0—0	421232—0—0
Value of goods sold at the fair.	39383—4—6	572785—0—0	533401—11—6
Value of goods remaining undisposed of.	29860—4—6	142030—0—0	112169—11—6

These extremely poor results are due to the long break since 1895 as also to the bad effects of famine and plague.

14. The auspicious day of the Delhi Coronation Durbar was observed at Idar and throughout the State as a great public holiday. A Durbar was held in the Juvan-Nivas Hall and the Proclamation read out by the Hazur Secretary Mr. Ramnath Ratnoo. The other chief events of the day were the distribution of prizes and sweetmeats to the boys and girls of the Idar Schools, the illumination of the town at night, the release of 51 prisoners from the Central Jail at Idar and the firing of 101 guns from the hill-fort of Idar. Sweetmeats were also distributed to the children of all the schools in the State on this memorable day.

15. His Highness' best thanks are due to Mr. P. S. V. Fitz Gerald, Political Agent, Mahikantha, for the sincere advice and cordial help that he readily accorded to His Highness in the difficult work of improving some of the resources of the State.

Income and Expenditure.

16. The figures under this head refer to the State's financial year St. 1958 which closed on the 31st of July 1902, as the accounts of the State are kept according to that year.

17. The total Khalsa revenue demands of the State from all sources for the year St. 1958 aggregated to Rs. 313660 as against Rs. 324191 in the previous year. The arrears of unrecovered revenues on the 31st July 1902 amounted to Rs. 401683, viz.—

Past year...	...	Rs. 257522
St. 1958 ...	...	Rs. 144161
		<u>Rs. 401683</u>

18. The following table gives a comparative statement of the actual collections and other receipts in the State's financial years St. 1958 and St. 1957:—

ITEMS.	COLLECTION IN St. 1958, A. D. 1902-1903			COLLECTION IN St. 1957 A. D. 1901-1902		
	Past year's	The year's own	Total	Past year's	The year's own	Total.
I						
Balance on hand at the beginning of the year			133385			12002
II						
Cash transactions						
(a) REVENUE RECEIPTS						
(1) Land Revenue proper ...	15528	56245	71773	13054	100661	113715
(2) Sale proceeds of building sites	330	1087	1417	...	5543	5543
(3) Royalty of stones quarried	1688	4125	5813	1799	3349	5148

(4) Local Fund	871	4752	5623	759	6972	7731
(5) Veros or Cesses upon } non-agriculturists ...	3182	12305	15487	1762	14877	16639
(6) Opium ... ..	...	2002	2002	...	3156	3156
(7) Abkari	3306	4257	7563	5177	5439	10616
(8) Forests ... ..	...	1853	1853	...	225	225
(9) Dan...	5823	25013	30836	4942	25522	30464
(10) Judicial receipts ... ..	...	1390	1390	...	1152	1152
(11) Stamps ... ..	...	13498	13498	...	11934	11934
(12) School fees &c. ... ..	...	1313	1313	...	1073	1073
(13) Registration ... ..	...	676	676	...	698	698
(14) Nazerana ... ..	...	798	798	...	1397	1397
(15) Bhang, Ganja fees ... ..	...	125	125	...	91	91
(16) Fees for the sale of poi- sonous drugs ... ..	...	50	50	1	81	82
(17) Cattle pound receipts ... ..	...	131	131	...	93	93
(18) Municipal receipts... ..	330	2494	2824	128	2516	2644
(19) Sale proceeds of intestate property ... ..	...	4008	4008	...	4250	4250
(20) Receipt on interest and profit on a/c of A. P. and G. I. P. Ry. Co. shares held by the State... ..	...	2500	2500	...	2216	2216
(21) Miscellaneous	1735	15307	17042	1012	7579	8591
(22) Khichadi and other Raj Haks	17106	10158	27264	18494	18990	37484
Totals of revenue...	49899	164087	213986	47128	217814	264942
(b) OTHER CASH RECEIPTS.						
(23) Sale proceeds of State pro- perty. ... ..	...	5972	5972	...	23842	23842
(24) Cash balance of His late Highness' Khangī transfer- red to the State Treasury...	...	50	50	...	91953	91953
(25) Nazerana on His Highness' Installation... ..	...	16758	16758	...	...	...

(26) Recoveries of State's dues...	...	17312	17312	10650	1936	12586
Totals of other Cash receipts...	...	40092	40092	10650	117731	128381
(c) DEBTS						
(27) Loans from British Govt ...	...	200962	200962	...	183409	183409
(28) Do.—from local bankers...	...	3210	3210	...	...	...
(29) Receipts on deposit accounts	...	35550	35550	...	26944	26944
Totals of debts...	...	239722	239722	...	210353	210353
Totals of all Cash transactions, including balances ...	...	...	627185	...	...	615678
III						
ITEMS OF ADJUSTMENT.						
(30) Nominal value of A. P. shares received back from the Darbar Khangi ...	...	...	...	...	...	50000
(31) Japti deposits of disputed villages eventually adjudged Khalsa ...	...	...	...	...	...	55407
(32) Advances on account of relief works adjusted ...	...	...	1237	...	...	131643
(33) Credit entries required by the clearance of past accounts ...	...	...	79873	...	...	238014
(34) Other adjustments...	...	...	60117	...	...	110344
Totals of adjustment...	...	...	141227	...	...	585608
GRAND TOTALS...	...	...	768412	...	...	1291236

19. The subjoined table is a comparative statement of the actual expenditure incurred and other disbursements made in the State's financial years St. 1958 and 1957:—

ITEMS.	St. 1958		St. 1957	
	A. D.		A. D.	
	1902-		1901-	
	1903		1902	
I,				
Cash Transactions.				
(a) Non-administrative.				
(1) Darbar Nimnok.	2500	50076
(2) Allowances of the Bhabhijis, &c.	19890	15381
(3) Pensions and Parvashis including Jiwarak.	449	166
(4) The stables, carriages, horses, bullocks, &c.	10229	2315
(5) Furniture, tents, &c.	1693	190
(6) Hazur Khangi establishment.	6713	5872
(7) Vagad establishment.	167	...
(8) Sundry charges, viz.—				
Guest expenses.	...	St. '58 598	St. '57 487	
Sirpao (dress of honour) charges		474	2793	
Charities.	...	1566	658	
Subscription to papers including Library charges.	738	
Garden expenses.	...	1724	135	
Holiday expenses.	...	103	863	
Contribution (Chanda Fala)	196	
Kitchen expenses.	...	3738	192	
Toshakhana expenses.	...	190	1305	
Expenses on account of ornaments		326	...	
Shikari establishment.	...	105	...	
Polo expenses.	...	128	...	
Miscellaneous.	...	220	217	
		9172	7584	9172 7584

(9) Extraordinary expenses—

	St. '58	St. '57		
Maji Sahob's funeral. ...	484	8051		
Matum-Poshi or expenses incurred in sending condolence parties, &c. on the occasions of deaths in Rajwadas. ...	17805	6646		
His late Highness' funeral ...	1647	10629		
	<u>19936</u>	<u>25326</u>	19936	25326

Totals of Non-administrative charges...	70749	106910
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(b) Administrative.

(10) Tribute Vol Giras, &c.	1768	33301
(11) The Executive.	33967	22277
(12) Revenue Department. ...	...	...	38114	30033
(13) Opium. ...	...	...	1703	1280
(14) Dan. ...	...	...	5202	3097
(15) Judicial Department. ...	...	...	9922	10005
(16) Education Department. ...	...	...	11904	9918
(17) Military Department. ...	...	...	...	20651
(18) Police Department. ...	...	...	70076	63296
(19) Jail charges. ...	...	...	8227	12994
(20) Medical Department including Vaccination. ...	...	...	8737	13733
(21) Forest Department. ...	...	...	1114	906
(22) Public Works Department. ...	...	...	14742	1186
(23) Municipalities. ...	...	...	2493	4203
(24) Devasthan-Dharmada. ...	...	...	1682	1625
(25) Postal Department. ...	...	...	3094	3449
(26) Interest &c. incurred on interest bearing debts...	...	...	26023	8171
(27) Census charges. ...	...	...	1215	1588
(28) Miscellaneous charges.	4182	5340

Totals of Administrative charges...	244275	261053
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Totals of all ordinary expenditure...	315024	367963
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(c) Other expenses.

(29) Famine Relief charges.	113791	56217
(30) Payments towards debts....	10376	803
Totals of other expenses....			124167	57020

(d) Dues.

(31) Advances.	St. '58	St. '57		
(a) On account of relief works to be adjusted on receipt of accounts. ...	13231	1237		
(b) On account of other items.	11967	4271		
(c) On account of H. H.'s visits to England & Delhi	53800	...		
(d) On account of Takavi to cultivators... ..	10478	...		
	89476	5508	89476	5508
(32) Takavi to Cultivators ...	...	...	277	10492
(33) Expenses on deposit accounts	...	...	56846	32980
(34) Other dues ... ..	...	...	29742	8330
Total of Dues...			176341	57310
Totals of all cash transactions...			615532	482293

II.

Items of Adjustment.

(35) Debited to the A. P. Ry. Co., being the value shares ... ..	...	...		50000
(36) Debited to the deposit account being proceeds of villages adjudged khalsa	...	...		55407
(37) Adjustment of relief advances	...	...
(38) Debit entries necessitated by the clearance of past accounts	...	...
(39) Other Jamakharchi entries	...	...
Totals of Adjustments...			141227	585608

III.

Balance at the end of the year...	11652	13385
Grand Totals...	768411	1201286

20. It will be seen that the administrative costs in St. 1958 as compared with those in St. 1957, show a decrease of Rs. 52939. This decrease is attributable to the retrenchments made in the previous year combined with the fact that the Ghasdana amount due to H. H. the Gaekwar was not paid in St. 1958.

21. It will also be seen that the total revenue receipts in St. 1958 was Rs. 213986 or Rs. 50956 less than those of St. 1957. The decrease was due to the insufficient and untimely rainfall in 1958 followed by the plague of rats which ate away not only what scanty crops were raised of the monsoon but also the winter crops.

Owing to the same causes, the land revenue demands fell from Rs. 154817 in St. 1957 to Rs. 144893 in 1958.

22. The total of culturable area in the khalsa portion of the State is about 160000 acres. That under cultivation in St. 1955 was about 89000. The famine of St. 1956 and the two lean years that followed it greatly reduced the area of occupied culturable with ^{the} result that it was 78800 acres in St. 1958.

Financial Position.

23. The following particulars will indicate the financial position of the Official year from April 1902 to March 1903.

The balance on hand on the 1st of April 1902 was Rs. 92018. The collections of revenue together with the Nazerana amount realized on His Highness' Installation and the recoveries of State's dues amounted to Rs. 353,790. New loans to the extent of Rs. 355,207 were obtained during the year from Government while Japti deposits brought in Rs. 20609. All these items including the balance aggregate to Rs. 826624, which represent the total cash receipts in the year on the credit side.

The administrative costs and the Darbar khangi or non-administrative charges amounted to Rs. 403287. The outlay on relief works was Rs. 115313. Loans to the extent of Rs. 27516 were advanced to the subordinate Jagirdara. Payments towards debts, Advances on different accounts, Tagavi to cultivators and expenses on deposit accounts aggregated to Rs. 219634. The total of all these cash transactions made during the year thus comes to Rs. 765750 on the debit side.

The balance at the close of the year was Rs. 60374.

24. The total liabilities of His late Highness' time excluding the loans borrowed from Government stood at Rs. 258061-11-4 on the 1st of April 1902 as shown below :—

Head.	Amount.
1. Debts due to private individuals	119587-8-2
2. Deposits belonging to attached estates and others ...	55632-0-2
3. Arrears of salaries	23998-5-2
4. Arrears of Tribute and Vol Giras	32373-11-7
5. Miscellaneous	26520-2-3
Total... ..	258061-11-4

Out of these, the debts due to private creditors have been wholly extinguished. This combined with the adjustment of accounts and the payments made under the other heads during the year have brought down these old liabilities to Rs. 93759-4-7.

25. The total of loans advanced by Government to the State was Rs. 450069-11-11 on 1st April 1902. Additional loans aggregating to Rs. 355102-6-2 had to be borrowed from Government at different times during the year. The circumstances necessitating these loans and the amounts thereof are stated below ;—

- (1) A loan of Rs. 100000 was applied for to meet the expenses of His Highness' visit to England, of which Government sanctioned an advance of only Rs. 50000 50000-0-0
- (2) The debts due to private creditors were all incurred in His late Highness' time and as such, were not binding on H. H. the present Maharaja. His Highness, however, expressing his desire to liquidate these liabilities a loan of Rs. 120000 was advanced by Government for the extinguishment of the above liabilities as well as to provide for the expenses of His Highness' visit to the Delhi Coronation Durbar. 120000-0-0
- (3) The advances made for relief and administrative purposes amounted to Rs. 185000 ... 185000-0-0

(4) Rs. 102—6—2 were credited in the year to Government accounts as being the State's contribution to the establishment charges ...	102—6—2
	<hr/>
	355102—6—2

As the amount of interest that accrued due on these loans upto the close of the year under report, viz. Rs. 25293—14—1 was remitted to Government, the total debt remaining due to Government on account of the loans advanced to the State thus amounted to Rs. 805172—2—1 on the 31st of March 1903.

Besides Rs. 355102—6—2 taken from Government during the year, His Highness borrowed, while he was in England, a sum of about Rs. 50000 from Messrs. King, King & Co. In fact, His Highness had calculated the cost of his visit to England at Rs. 100000. The advance however, sanctioned on this account was only Rs. 50000. His Highness had to prolong his stay in England a month further owing to His Imperial Majesty's illness, and was hence obliged to take a loan of Rs. 50000 from the above Company to cover the extra expenditure. Government have already been requested to pay this amount—which is still outstanding—to Messrs. King, King & Co. on the State's account and reckon it as an advance made to the State before 31st October 1902.

26. The financial position of the State rendered it imperative that every branch and head of revenue should be examined with a view to make all necessary improvement and thus increase its yielding capacity. Some Measures taken to improve the resources.

of the heads needed immediate reforms. A number of measures were consequently adopted in the latter part of the year and related to the following branches of revenue;—

(1). *Agriculture*.—As shown in para 22 above, there was a considerable area of good culturable land lying uncultivated in the Khalsa territory of the State. Certain concessions and conveniences were offered in the preceding year to induce cultivators to take up the culturable padtar. The scheme however showed no appreciable results. It was hence revised about the end of the year and made still more liberal. The Khalsa Havildars were at the same time instructed to explain it to the cultivators of their respective circles and a special man deputed to travel about and make it known as widely as possible.

With a view to increase the working efficiency of Revenue Officials in the Districts and to provide a better supervision over the work of revenue collections, the Taluks—divisions of the State were re-arranged and increased from 3 to 6, each being placed in charge of a separate Mamlatdar.

(2) *Customs*.—The system of customs-levy, hitherto followed, imposed duty not only on articles that entered or left the State limits but also on those that passed from one place to another within the State's own territory. This system had been pressing heavily on the people and greatly hampering the trade. The duty leviable on goods moving from one village to another within Idar limits was hence abolished except with regard to the goods that went to Ahmednagar from any other village of the State or came from Ahmednagar to any other such village. It is only on the import of foreign goods into the State and the export of home-merchandise to foreign parts that the customs-duty has been retained.

(3) *Abkari*.—Out of the total of 194 liquor-stills in the State, 66 were under the control of the Raj while the enjoyment of the remaining 128 Kalal-Bathis had been allowed to several subordinate Jagirdars. The want of efficient management and proper supervision on the part of some of these Jagirdars, besides encouraging smuggling, enabled the still-farmers of their pattas to manufacture liquors of an injurious kind. In order, therefore, to control the import and export of illicit liquors, to save people from the effects of bad liquors, and, above all, to ensure a better preservation of public peace, it became imperative to withdraw the favour—no longer deserved; and consequently, the liquor-stills of ~~petty~~ Jagirdars were taken under the direct supervision and control of the Raj.

The two heads of Customs and Abkari which had been under the supervision of the Revenue Officer, were taken from his charge and entrusted to a separate Officer styled Superintendent, Customs and Abkari. The change was deemed necessary to afford sufficient time and thought to the Revenue Officer for reforms in the matter of land-revenue, as also to provide a better supervision over Customs and Abkari which now exist as a separate Department. Mr. Umraosingji who has been in charge of this Department is showing excellent work inspite of the pressure of the Khangī affairs which he has to mind as Private Secretary to His Highness the Darbar.

(4) *Stamps and Registration*.—The old rules relating to the use of State stamps and the registration of documents were replaced about the end of the year by the Stamp and Registration Acts of the State with effect from the 1st of April 1903. Like Customs and Abkari, these two branches of revenue were also placed under a separate Officer.

The changes mentioned in (2), (3) and (4) have been complained against by some of the subordinate Jagirdars whose objections on the several matters are under consideration.

27. The number of Inami Seshani and Davasthan-Dharmada villages was 145 i. e. more than one-third of that of the Khalsa villages. The extraordinary extent of this class of alienations evidently showed that the former Rulers had lavished the village-grants without any regard to the interests of the State. An inquiry regarding the nature and validity of these grants seemed desirable and necessary; and accordingly the holder of every village-grant was called upon to send in a copy of the Parwana or Sanad under which he held the grant together with a genealogical table showing his descent from the original grantees. In some cases the holders reported loss or destruction of their title-deeds but most of them submitted the particulars asked for. On examining the Parwanas that had come in, it was found that none of the grants excepting a few had been for good and valid consideration, as nearly all of them owed their origin to nothing except the love of praise and flattery on the part of the granting Ruler or his religious spirit. Again, the former instances of resumption of Inam and Seshan grants, even in cases where the grants purported to be perpetual, were conclusive on the point that the village-grants that were not for good and valid consideration, were resumable at any moment, however absolute they might be in their expressions. Their continuance for any period, however long, only conferred upon the holders so much additional benefit but did not and could not create any right in them against the Raj. Most of the Inam and Sheshan villages were consequently resumed. It may, however, be mentioned—though the matter refers to the new year commencing from 1st April 1903—that the persons affected having subsequently petitioned His Highness to set aside the orders of resumption, His Highness disapproved the summary procedure adopted and ordered that the villages resumed be restored and continued until the cases were disposed of after due inquiry.

PROTECTION.

28. The Military did not exist in the year under report as a separate establishment as it had already been amalgamated with the Police in the previous year. (Vide para 49 of the last Annual Report.)

29. Throughout the year, Major Thakore Bakhtawarsingh continued at the head of the Police Department as Military Secretary. Excepting the additions of the Veterinary Department and the 'Shikari' party the strength of the stipendiary Police force remained almost the same as it was in the previous year after its re-organization by His Highness the Maharaja Sahab. When the year under report closed, it was as under:—

Distribution, strength and cost of the Police.

DESIGNATION.					Number.	Annual costs.
Police Superintendent	...	...	...	...	1	2100
Assistant Police Superintendents	...	...	...	...	2	1800
Inspectors	...	...	...	...	2	840
Chief Constables	...	...	...	...	12	2940
Jamadars	...	...	...	...	5	720
Killedar	...	...	...	...	1	360
Subedar	...	...	...	...	1	240
Havildars	...	...	...	...	16	1726
Naiks	...	...	...	...	38	3456
Constables	...	...	...	...	389	28008
Bugler	...	...	...	...	1	96
Office establishment	...	...	...	...	9	1080
Bhangi and Bhisti	...	...	...	...	2	144
Sikari party	...	...	...	...	7	540
					479	44052
MOUNTED POLICE.						
Jamadars	...	...	...	...	6	3384
Dafedar	...	...	...	...	1	336
Bugler	...	...	...	...	1	336
Sawars	...	...	...	...	68	20400
Bhangis, Bhisti and Tailor	...	...	...	...	3	216
Veterinary Doctor	...	...	...	...	1	300
His peon and water-carrier	...	...	...	...	2	96
					82	25068
Other charges—Contingencies, Bhatta, } Cart hire, grass &c. }					...	18111
Totals...					561	87231

30. The number of the foot-men added to the permanent police in the preceding year, (Vide para 51 of the last Annual Report) to assist it in the time of scarcity, was reduced to 90 on account of the situation having latterly improved. They are not shown in the above statement as their employment is only temporary.

31. The Mounted police had more than one occasion in the year to prove that they were far more efficient than foot-men, particularly in the work of pursuing Bhil offenders on the frontier. The results fully justified the increase made in their strength in the year preceding.

32. The proportion which the stipendiary police bears to the area of the State is one policeman to 3.45 square miles, its proportion to the population being 147.5

33. The strength of the Police in the territories of Sardars, Bho-mias &c. was 165 footmen and 44 Sawars against 153 and 66 in the previous year, the total cost of maintenance amounting to Rs 12864.

34. The total number of offences reported to the Police were 249 as against 309 in the previous year. From figure 2 complaints struck off the register as false by the District Magistrate should be deducted in order to determine the real extent of crime. The total number would thus come down to 247. Of these the offenders in 143 cases were apprehended and brought to trial, in addition to 26 offenders involved in 8 cases of the previous year. The total number of cases sent up for trial by the Police was 169 involving 332 offenders. The number of crimes remaining untracked at the end of the year was 97 as against 132 in the preceding.

It may be observed that the offenders in most of the untracked cases belonged to the neighbouring States of Sirohi, Mewar and Dungarpur, where the State police could not pursue them so promptly and freely as in Idar limits.

35. It will be seen that in the year under report there was a decrease of 60 (from 309 to 249) in the number of crimes as compared with the year preceding. This result is, no doubt, attributable to the increased efficiency of the State Police who showed more activity and better vigilance under their present head Thakore Bakhtawarsing.

36. The number and nature of offences reported and detected by the Police will be seen from the summary given below:—

Nature of offence.	Number of offences reported in 1902-1903.	Number of offences detected.	Number detected out of those previously reported	Total number undetected.
OFFENCES AFFECTING HUMAN BODY.				
Murders	1	1	...	...
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder	4	4	...	...
Attempt to murder	2	2	...	...
Voluntarily causing grievous hurt ...	4	5	...	1
Voluntarily causing grievous hurt and using criminal force	4	3	...	1
Wrongful restraint	3	3	1	...
Rape	2	1	...	1
Assault	4	4	...	...
Kidnapping	3	2	...	1
OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY.				
Cattle-lifting	30	21	3	9
Theft	34	29	...	4
Dacoity with murder or grievous hurt..	36	10	3	23
Rebbery with murder or grievous hurt..	13	5	...	7
Criminal breach of Trust	8	6	...	2
Dishonest receipt of stolen property ...	10	8	...	1
House-trespass and house-breaking ...	72	29	5	42
Theft with criminal force	2	...	...	1
Mischief of various degrees	12	8	1	3
OTHER OFFENCES.				
Using a Govt. stamp once used ...	1	1	...	...
So dealing with combustible matters as to endanger human life	1	1	...	...
Escape from legal custody	1	1	...	...
Cheating by personation	1	1	...	...
Uttering counterfeited coin as genuine...	1	...	...	1
Total...	249	143	13	97

37. The following statement compares the number of heinous crimes committed during the year under retrospect with that in the preceding year;—

Description of the heinous offence.	Year	
	1902-1903	1901-1902
Murders	1	6
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder ...	4	...
Attempts to murder... ..	2	4
Robberies	13	27
Dacoites	36	65
Total...	56	102

38. The above comparison discloses no small decrease in the extent of heinous crime in the year under report. The number of murders and attempts to murder has gone down from 6 and 4 in the previous year to 1 and 2 in the year under report. While that of dacoities and robberies has fallen from 65 and 27 to 36 and 13 respectively. These satisfactory results reflect great credit on the police department in general and in particular on Major Bakhtavarsingh.

39. The amount of property stolen during the year was also less than that in the previous year, being of Rs. 11267—8—2 against Rs. 32669—1—3. Of this property worth Rs. 2935—6—5 has been recovered while the amount recovered in the preceding year was Rs. 5448—8—6. The percentage of stolen property recovered to the property stolen thus comes to 26.05 against 16.6.

JUDICIAL.

(1) Criminal Justice.

40. The number of Courts administering criminal justice in 1901-1902 was shown in the last Annual Report to be

Description of Courts. 25. As a net result of the reductions and additions explained in para. 61 and 62 of that Report, the number of Criminal Courts stood at 23 on the 1st of April 1902. Of these 8 Courts ceased to exist during the year under report while 4 new came into existence. At the close of the year there were, in all, 19 Courts of criminal jurisdiction as shown below:—

I The Hazur Court ... ..	...	...	...	...	1
II The Court of Sessions ... ..	...	...	...	...	1

III	The Court of District Magistrate	1
IV	The Courts of Magistrates of the 2nd Class with committing powers	6
V	The Court of Magistrate of the 3rd Class	1
VI	Courts of Sardars, Bhayats &c. who are granted honorary Magisterial powers :—	
	(a) Special Magistrates (Samera, Karcha and Dehegamda)	3
	(b) Courts of the Magistrates of the 1st Class (Pal and Tintoi)	2
	(c) Courts of Magistrates of the 2nd Class (Undani and Suver	2
	(d) Courts of Magistrates of the 3rd Class (Mahu and Ganthiol)	2
		19

To afford greater facility to the people in obtaining criminal justice, His Highness created 3 new courts of the 2nd Class Magistrates with committing powers about the end of the year at Bhiloda, Meghraj and Idar.

With the establishment of the court of 2nd Class Magistrate at Meghraj, that of the 3rd Class Magistrate there became superfluous and was hence abolished so that there remained only one court of that grade in the Khalsa territory, viz. that at Posina.

The number of the Special Magistrates has increased from 2 to 3, as Dehegamda was invested by the State with Magisterial powers similar to Karcha and Samera.

There were three courts of the Honorary 2nd Class Magistrates, viz. Undani, Suver and Ghorwada at the beginning of the year, out of which Ghorwada was deprived of his powers on account of his mental derangement.

Out of the 8 Honorary Magistrates of the 3rd Class shown in the last Annual Report, the three Japtidars of the Estates of Mundeti, Kukadia and Moti Mori were divested of the Magisterial powers conferred upon them, and so was Laloda; while the courts at Medhasan and Chanderni ceased to exist on the death of the Thakores of these places.

41. Mr. Shankerprasad N. Dholakia continued as District Magistrate till November last when he having resigned,
Change of hands. His Highness conferred the post of District Magistrate on Mr. Chaturbhuj Mankeshwar Bhatt, a young and educated native of the State.

42. The following table gives the particulars regarding the 265 (248 new and 17 old) cases disposed of during the Magisterial work. year.

Number.	Class of Magisterial Courts.	Balance of the preceding year.	New.	Total.	Disposed of.	Committed.	Balance at the end of the year.
1	Court of District Magistrate ...	5	74	79	73	1	5
2	The Courts of Magistrates of the 2nd Class with committing powers.	9	124	133	119	11	3
3	The Courts of Magistrates of the 3rd Class ...	...	1	1	1	...	...
4	Courts of Special Magistrates ...	...	3	3	3	...	...
5	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 1st Class ...	2	28	30	30	...	...
6	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 2nd Class ...	1	19	20	18	...	2
7	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 3rd Class ...	...	9	9	9	...	...
Total...		17	258	275	253	12	10

43. The following table will further show particulars regarding the 562 (37 old and 525 now) accused persons dealt with during the year:—

Number.	Class of Courts.	Awaiting trial in the beginning of 1902-1903.	New.	Total.	Convicted.	Discharged.	Acquitted.	Died, absconded &c.	Committed.	Awaiting trial at the close of the year.
1	The Court of District Magistrate ...	6	195	201	27	102	61	1	2	2
2	The Courts of 2nd Class Magistrates with committing powers ...	20	241	261	100	106	24	...	25	3
3	The Courts of 3rd Class Magistrates ...	...	5	5	5	...	...	...	...	...
4	Courts of Special Magistrates ...	...	3	3	2	...	1	...	...	...

5	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 1st Class	3	43	46	30	8	7	1	...	...
6	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 2nd Class	8	41	49	12	12	21	...	...	4
7	Courts of the honorary Magistrates of the 3rd Class ... ..	...	12	12	9	1	2	...	...	...
Total...		37	540	577	185	229	116	230	15	

44. Besides the cases mentioned above two opium cases were tried and disposed of during the year under review. Opium cases. There were 3 accused persons in the above two cases all of whom were convicted. There has been no Abkari case during the year.

45. At the beginning of the year there were 10 cases involving 26 prisoners awaiting trial in the Sessions Court. 13 Sessions Work. cases involving 30 prisoners were committed during the year. The Court disposed of 21 cases involving 53 prisoners as against 28 involving 63 persons in 1901—1902; while one case was struck off owing to the death of the prisoner therein involved. Of the 53 prisoners placed on trial 37 were convicted and 16 acquitted. The Sessions Judge was assisted by assessors in 15 cases, in 14 of which the Judge and the Assessors agreed. In 6 cases, the accused pleaded guilty. The average duration of a Sessions case comes to 15·68 days against 15·93 in the previous year. One case involving 2 prisoners remained pending at the end of the year.

46. The Appellate Courts in the state are the Hazur Court, the Naib Dewan's Court, and the Court of the District Magistrate. The sub-joined table gives the result of the work done by them during the year under report as compared with that in the preceding year:—

Court.	Year.	Pending.	Admitted		Disposed of		No. of appellants whose sentences were			Balance at the end of the year.
			Number of appeals.	Number of appellants	Number of appeals	Number of appellants	Confirmed	Varied.	Reversed	
Hazur }	1901—1902	...	7	7	7	7	6	1	...	...
	1902—1903	...	5	5	5	5	2	...	3	...

Sessions Court	1901—1902	...	13	13	12	12	5	2	5	1
	1902—1903	1	5	5	6	6	5	...	1	...
District Magistrates Court.	1901—1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1902—1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

47. The statement below will show the working of the Extradition procedure during the year:—

Demands upon Idar.

By whom	Number of demands		Number of surrenders	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
British Government ...	...	...	...	...
Native States...	4	10	4	7

Demands by Idar.

On whom	Number of demands		Number of surrenders.	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
British Government ...	1	2	1	2
Native States...	15	46	11	26

Out of the 28 prisoners surrendered to Idar during the year and the 11 that were pending trial at the end of the previous year, making a total of 39, 23 were convicted and 16 acquitted or discharged.

(2) *Jails.*

48. The number of jails and lockups remaining at the close of the year under report was 16 as shown below:—

1. Idar, 2. Ahmednagar, 3. Vadali, 4. Bayad, 5. Bhiloda,
6. Megraj, 7. Posina, 8. Samera, 9. Kareha, 10. Dehegamda,
11. Pal, 12. Tintoi, 13. Saver, 14. Undani, 15. Mahu,
16. Ganthiol.

49. The following table shows particulars regarding the Jail population of the State.

			Convicts.	Under trial.	Total.
Number on 1st April 1902	...	...	118	31	149
Admitted during the year	...	...	203	271	474
Released from or died in jails	...	...	248	298	546
Remaining in jails at the end of the year...			73	4	77
Daily average Khalsa	...	...	123·8		128
Do. Sardars	...	...	4·2		

50. There were 19 deaths in the jails during the year, 17 among the convicts and 2 among under-trial prisoners, all of which were due to natural causes.

51. Of the total number of convicts received in the Central Jail at Idar during the year 68·1 per cent. belonged to Criminal tribes. the criminal tribes as against 82·5 in the previous year.

52. The total charges of maintaining the prisoners was Rs. 5677-5-3 as against Rs. 7155-12-8 in the previous year. Costs of Maintenance. The reduction in expenditure is attributable to the decrease in the number of jail inmates in the year under report. The average daily cost per prisoner per diem was Re. 0-1-11½ as against Re. 0-1-10½ in the previous year.

53. There were 3 offences against the rules of jail discipline involving 9 prisoners against 5 and 9 respectively in 1901-1902. These were disposed of by putting the prisoners on low diet or under heavier fetters, by whipping or by taking away the benefit of good conduct.

54. Grinding corn, cleaning wood for prison use, making tape for cots and weaving Dungri cloth for prison-clothing were as usual the in-door works, and repairing roads, cleaning gardens and working at the Darbar Press were the out-door works on which the convicts were employed.

(3) Civil Justice.

55. The number of courts administering civil justice in the year

The Hazur Court.
The Naib Dewan's Court.
8 Munsiffs' Courts.

under review was 10 as shown in the margin as against 3 in the preceding year. To afford greater convenience to the people, the number of Munsiffs' Courts was increased in the latter part of the year by conferring civil powers of a limited nature on the six Mamalatdars. Their jurisdiction extended to hear civil suits upto Rs. 50.

56. The following table compares the work of the Civil Courts in the year under report with that in the previous year.

Courts.			Year.	Pending.	New admissions.	Total.	Disposed of	Balance at the end.
Original suits.	Naib Dewan's Court ...	{	1901-1902	2	1	3	1	2
			1902-1903	2	1	3	2	1
	Munsiffs' Courts ...	{	1901-1902	2	450	452	442	10
			1902-1903	10	543	553	548	5
	(Darkhasts) ...	{	1901-1902	256	596	852	567	285
			1902-1903	285	885	1170	585	585
Appeals.	Hazur Court ...	{	1901-1902	1	1	2	2	...
			1902-1903	...	...	...	...	...
	Naib Dewan's Court ...	{	1901-1902	22	19	41	28	13
			1902-1903	13	7	20	18	2

(4) Civil-Political Suits and Appeals.

57. The original court for civil-political suits is that of the Naib Dewan except with regard to boundary disputes which are entrusted for disposal to the Simada Kamdar. Appeals against the decisions of these two courts as well as other miscellaneous appeals are heard by the Hazur Court.

58. The subjoined table will show the amount of the original Civil-Political work done in the year under report as compared with the previous year:—

Original Work.

Courts.			Year.	Pending.	New admissions.	Total.	Disposed of	Balance at the end.
Naib Dewan ...	...	...	1901-1902	36	59	95	56	39
			1902-1903	39	49	88	76	12
Simada Kamdar ...	...	...	1901-1902	68	22	90	24	66
			1902-1903	66	...	66	...	66

59. The number of appeals awaiting disposal in the Hazur Court on the 1st of April was 19; 10 more were filed during the year, making 29 in all. Of these 16 were disposed of, leaving 13 at the close of the year.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

60. Dr. Motilal Tulsidas Mankodi, L. M. S., was throughout the year at the head of this Department as Chief Medical Officer. Besides the professional skill and medical experience which he possessed, he has by his courteous manners and free access earned the gratitude of many a people.

61. The number of medical institutions maintained in the State remained the same i. e. 4, as in 1901-1902. In Hospitals and Dispensaries. the latter part of the year, the State Hospital was transferred from Idar to Ahmednagar, it being replaced at Idar by a Dispensary. The opening of three additional Dispensaries i. e. at Meghraj, Bhiloda and Khed is under contemplation.

62. The number of patients treated, the result of their treatment and the expenditure incurred on that account as compared with the previous year are given in the sub-joined table:...

Year.	Number of patients.		Result of indoor patients.				Result of outdoor patients.				Expenditure.	Daily average.
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Cured.	Absent.	Died.	Remaining under treatment.	Cured.	Absent.	Died.	Remaining under treatment.		
1902-1903	117	14114	105	4	6	2	13358	541	20	195	7145-8-8	231-93
1901-1902	100	14020	87	6	3	4	13450	397	22	151	6453-12-3	232-12

63. 11 Major Surgical operations were performed in the year under retrospect against 15 in the previous year. Of these were 5 circumcisions, 2 Abdomen tapped, 2 Tumor scalp removed, 1 Illiac abscess opened and 1 Enterorraphy.

The number of minor operations performed in the year has been 106 against 209 in the previous year.

8 Post-mortem examinations were held during the year against 12.

64. The prevailing diseases in the year were malarial fevers, diarrhoea and dysentery, bronchitis, and diseases of the heart, the liver, the eye and the skin.

Principal affections.

65. The Vaccination Department is worked under the supervision of the Chief Medical Officer of the State. The total number of vaccinations performed during the year was 3430, of which 3425 were primary and 5 secondary or re-vaccinations.

Vaccination.

66. There were 3484 births and 3395 deaths reported during the year. The corresponding figures in the year preceding were 2663 and 4518.

Vital Statistics:

67. The number of accidental deaths was 105 against 112 in the previous year. 16 of these were suicides, 9 were deaths by wild animals, 16 were snake-bites, 35 drowning-cases, and 9 falls from trees &c while the remaining casualties were due to other causes.

Casualties.

PUBLIC WORKS.

68. The heavy expenses of the relief operations which the State had to maintain during the first half of the year did not permit much to be done in this department. The retention of Mr. Harjiwandas Goculdars whose services were obtained from the Kathiawar Political Agency to supervise the relief works; was no longer necessary on the same having closed; his services were dispensed with in November 1902 and the Department was placed in the charge of Mr. Nagardas who has since been working with great zeal and energy.

Change of Officers.

69. The figure given in para 19 above of the amount spent on Public Works refers to the State's financial year from August to July. The expenses incurred under this head in the year ending 31st March 1903, exclusive of relief works, amounted to Rs. 11574 as against Rs. 14277 in the previous year.

The following are the items spent under this head;—

Name of Head.							Amount in Rupees.
(1) New Works...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1003
(2) Additions and alterations of Darbar and public buildings.							2744
(3) Repairs of Darbar and public buildings...				...	...		4326
(4) Repairs of wells and tanks		...	...	...	...		234
(5) Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	494
(6) Additions and alterations of public temples				...	...		160
(7) Engineering establishment...		...	...	...	...		2613
Total...							11574

70. No original work of importance was executed in the year for want of funds. The two Nora buildings for accommodating the attendants of Bhabhijis Zaliji and Chawadiji were the only minor works newly constructed in the year.

EDUCATION.

71. The number of schools in the State in the beginning of the year was 51, 44 including the English School at Idar for boys and 7 for girls. Of these 2 i. e. the one at Samera and that at Verabar were closed towards the middle of the year as the daily attendance at these schools did not justify their continuance.

72. The subjoined table will show the attendance at the Schools as compared with that in the previous year:—

Years.				Number.		Average attendance.	
				Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1902-1903	...	...	...	2227	294		
1901-1902	...	...	...	2250	254	51	4

73. The number of Missionary Schools in the State during the year under report was the same (i. e. 4) as in the previous year. The number of boys and girls

attending these schools was at the end of the year 206 as against 1736 in 1901-1902. This sudden and large decrease is due to the circumstance that those of the Bhil boys who had flocked to these schools more for food and raiment than for instruction left them as famine-conditions abated in the year.

74. There were 5 Kumars studying in the Sadra Scott College in the beginning of the year, viz. Kukadia, Dawad, Sardars' Kumars. Derol and the two Mundeti Kumars. Of these Laxmansing the elder Kumar of Mundeti left in January last to receive general training under His Highness. On the other hand the Pal Kumar has joined it in the year under report.

75. Besides these 7 more have been studying at the various local schools in the State.

76. The total cost of scholarships maintained by the State in the year at the different schools amounted to Rs. 276.

POSTAL.

77. The total number of letters, articles &c. carried by the State post offices was 133,634 against 133,556 in the preceding year, and the total charges on this account amounted to Rs. 3001-0-0 as against Rs. 2906-11-7 in 1901-1902, giving an average of 4.3 pice per postal article irrespective of its weight.

The cost of service stamps used for State purposes amounted to Rs. 84-15-6 as against Rs. 115-11-0 in the previous year.

RELIEF WORKS.

78. The rainfall during the year, though below the normal, was fairly distributed throughout the State. It measured 27.44 inches at Idar, 29.40 at Ahmednagar, 35.26 at Bayad, 29.45 at Moghraj and 19.96 at Posina, giving an average of 28.3 inches.

79. Although the season opened in July and progressed favourably, yet it was not until late in September that the famine-conditions caused by the insufficient and unseasonable rains in the previous year and the subsequent destruction of crops by the Rata, began to improve and consequently the relief operations had to be continued till October last. The irrigational works planned by Mr. Harjiwandas in the preceding year were undertaken and completed in the year under report. Besides these, a number of smaller works had to be opened at several places to provide relief to those relief-seekers who found it difficult to avail themselves of the larger works which lay at a distance from their abodes.

80. The following table will show the different works executed in the year together with the amounts of expenditure incurred on their account:—

Number.	Name of Work.	Costs incurred	
		in 1901-1902	in 1902-1903
1	Bayad Drainage Works	2711	12444
2	Isri Tank	5206	11754
3	Agia Tank	2145	5529
4	Raigadh Tank	2640	17168
5	Diversion of the Vaghawa Nulla to give full supply to Idar Tanks	5535	3839
6	Idar-Ahmednagar road repairs—a length of 17 miles ... ..	...	21007
7	Adding to the catchment area of the tank at Posina ... ..	...	975
8	Matoda Tank repairs	335	498
9	Irrigational Wells	118	142
10	Cutting of Bhetali-Ghanto near Bhiloda..	273	4229
11	Opening up of choaked inlet of the Samlaji Tank ... ..	...	441
12	Cutting and clearing of a part of the Isri forest... ..	35	110
13	Dhanal Tank ... ..	...	5137
14	Ramleshwar Tank repairs ... ..	...	1982
15	Khalikpur Tank near Sabulpur ... ..	...	471
16	Posina Road... ..	...	962
17	Sinol Bridge... ..	...	987
18	Construction of the Meghraj Thana ... ..	...	3528
19	Palace Garden at Idar ... ..	...	815
20	Polo ground, Race-Course &c.	27	2384
Total... ..		19255	94402
		113657	

81. Poor-houses were opened at Isri, Laloda, Agia, Posina and Ahmednagar. The total outlay under this head amounted to Rs. 1666.

82. Some of the reforms suggested by the late Dewan in his last two Annual Reports have not escaped notice. His Conclusion. Highness approves of them and contemplates the adoption of requisite measures in due time; such reforms being (1) to avail of the natural facilities for small irrigational works, (2) to encourage traffic in Ahmednagar building-stone and other by further reduction in the royalty, (3) to better preserve the forests by their division into certain parts and arranging for their clearances in turns as each ripens, and (4) to guide ignorant people as to suitable markets for the local products and to work in bodies where individual members have not sufficient stock for export.

83. His Highness has been impressed as was the Dewan that the anomalous distribution of authority over the three subordinate Jadecha Sardars is not conducive to the cause of justice and is an element of weakness in the central administration of the State. Moreover, His Highness is pained to find that unfortunately the Dewan's observation that some of the subordinate Sardars and Bheomias indulge in falsely exaggerated notions about their status is only too true. The need for an uniform customs tariff throughout the State was likewise transparent and has been already supplied. The exigencies of the State require the institution of the contemplated inquiry into the titles of all alienations of State land with a view to their settlement and reduction within proper limits and to fix the fair quota of taxation which these holders as well as the Bheomias and Sardars ought to contribute towards the increased costs of administration.

Idar-Ahmednagar;

10th July 1903.

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Maharaj Kumar, Idar.